

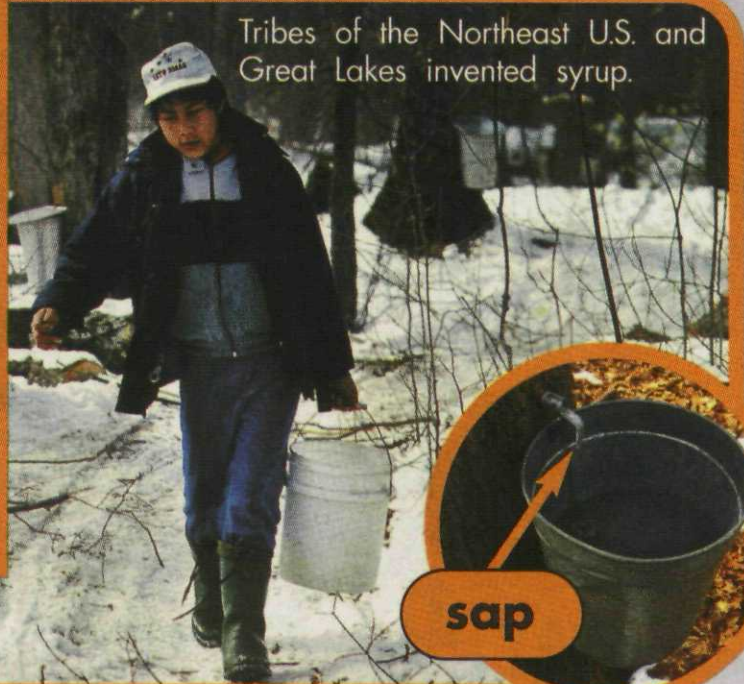
Native American Inventions

There are many different groups of Native Americans.
Look at all the things they invented!

Maple Syrup

Native Americans were the first to get syrup from maple trees. They let the sap of the maple tree drip into pails. Then, they boiled the sap until it turned into syrup.

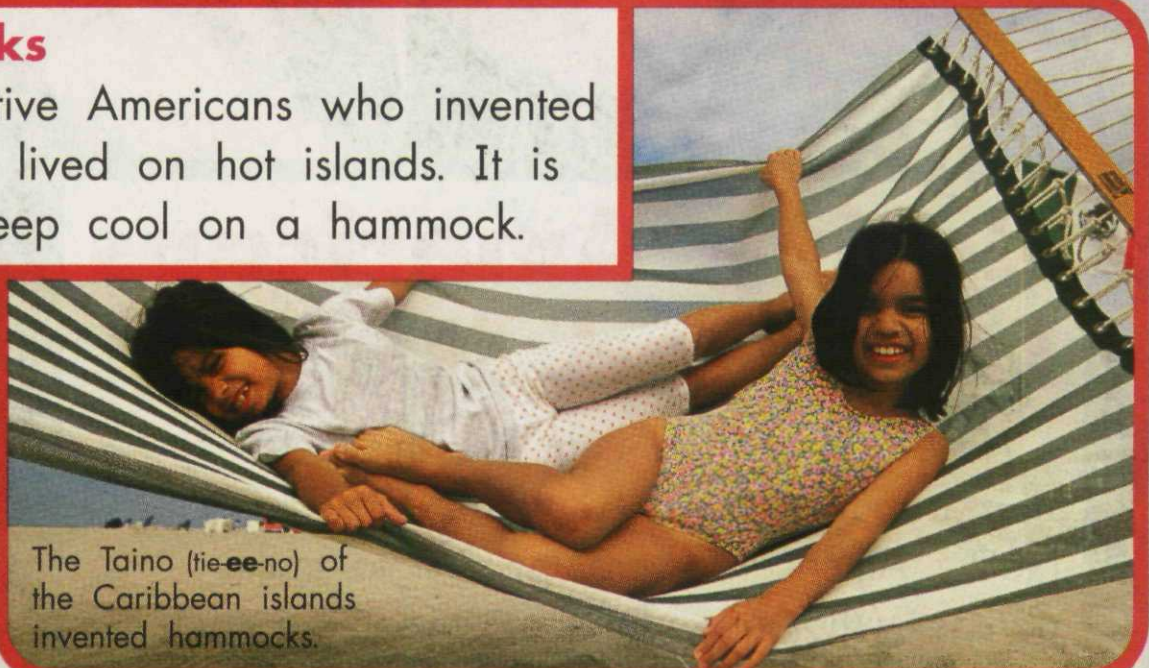
This boy and others still make syrup the same way.



Tribes of the Northeast U.S. and Great Lakes invented syrup.

Hammocks

The Native Americans who invented hammocks lived on hot islands. It is easy to keep cool on a hammock.



The Taino (tie-ee-no) of the Caribbean islands invented hammocks.

Lacrosse

Have you ever seen people play lacrosse? Native Americans invented this sport. It is played all over the world. Players throw and catch a ball with special sticks.



The Iroquois (eer-uh-coy) and tribes from the Eastern U.S. played lacrosse.

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Kayaks

The Native Americans who invented kayaks lived by the water. Kayaks are a great way to travel over water.

Today, people love to race kayaks. It is even a sport in the Olympics!



The Inuit invented kayaks.

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Did you know that the names of many states come from Native American words?

United States



Map Key

■ = States with names that come from Native American words

We would like to thank the Education Department at the National Museum of the American Indian for its help with this issue.

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